

What is claimed is:

1. An optical multi-layer system on a crystalline substrate, obtainable by
 - a) applying a free-flowing composition comprising nanoscale inorganic solid particles having polymerizable and/or polycondensable organic groups to a crystalline substrate;
 - b) polymerizing and/or polycondensing the groups of the solid particles to form an organically crosslinked layer;
 - c) applying a further composition according to a), which gives rise to a different refractive index than the preceding composition, to the organically crosslinked layer;
 - d) polymerizing and/or polycondensing the groups of the solid particles to form a further organically crosslinked layer;
 - e) optional single or multiple repetition of steps c) and d) to form further organically crosslinked layers on the organically crosslinked layers already present and/or other surfaces of the substrate; and
 - f) single-stage thermal consolidation of the layer composite and burnout of the organic constituents present;for the layer applied last,
 - 1) optionally, the polymerization and/or polycondensation of the groups of the solid particles to form an organically crosslinked layer can also be effected directly in the final stage f) or
 - 2) optionally and alternatively, the nanoscale inorganic solid particles have no polymerizable and/or polycondensable organic groups, so that, in this case, for the uppermost layer, no polymerization and/or polycondensation of groups of the solid particles with formation of organic crosslinking takes place before or in step f).
2. The optical multi-layer system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the crystalline substrate is composed of silicon, lithium niobate, lithium tantalate, quartz, sapphire, other precious stones or semi-precious stones, PbS or selenium.
3. The optical multi-layer system as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that the crystalline substrate is planar or curved.

4. The optical multi-layer system as claimed in one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the substrate is transparent.

5. The optical multi-layer system as claimed in one of claims 1 to 4,
5 characterized in that the substrate is provided on both sides with an optical multi-layer system.

6. The optical multi-layer system as claimed in one of claims 1 to 5,
10 characterized in that the crystalline substrate is a sheet, especially of sapphire, a watchglass, especially of sapphire, an instrument cover glass, a wafer, especially of silicon, a crystalline detector or an optical filter.

7. A process for producing an optical multi-layer system on a crystalline substrate, characterized by the following stages:

- 15 a) applying a free-flowing composition comprising nanoscale inorganic solid particles having polymerizable and/or polycondensable organic groups to a crystalline substrate;
- b) polymerizing and/or polycondensing the groups of the solid particles to form an organically crosslinked layer;
- 20 c) applying a further composition according to a), which gives rise to a different refractive index than the preceding composition, to the organically crosslinked layer;
- d) polymerizing and/or polycondensing the groups of the solid particles to form a further organically crosslinked layer;
- 25 e) optional single or multiple repetition of steps c) and d) to form further organically crosslinked layers on the organically crosslinked layers already present and/or other surfaces of the substrate; and
- f) single-stage thermal consolidation of the layer composite and
30 burnout of the organic constituents present;

for the layer applied last,

- 1) optionally, the polymerization and/or polycondensation of the groups of the solid particles to form an organically crosslinked layer can also be effected directly in the final stage f) or
- 35 2) optionally and alternatively, the nanoscale inorganic solid particles have no polymerizable and/or polycondensable organic groups, so that, in this case, for the uppermost layer, no polymerization and/or polycondensation of groups of the solid

particles with formation of organic crosslinking takes place before or in step f).

- 5 8. The process according to claim 7, characterized in that the formation of the optically crosslinked layer(s) is carried out at temperatures up to about 150°C, preferably up to about 130°C.
- 10 9. The process as claimed in any one of claims 7 and 8, characterized in that the formation of the organically crosslinked layer(s) is effected by photochemical polymerization and/or polycondensation.
- 15 10. The process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 9, characterized in that the one-stage consolidation and burnout is effected at temperatures in the range of 400-800°C, preferably 400-600°C.
- 20 11. The process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 10, characterized in that the one-stage consolidation and burnout is carried out in such a way that heating of the layer composite is effected from the outside inward in the direction toward the substrate.
- 25 12. The process as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the heating rate of the layer(s) is at least 100°K/min.
- 30 13. The process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 12, characterized in that the nanoscale particles are selected from semimetal and metal compounds, especially oxides, sulfides, selenides and tellurides of semimetals or metals and mixtures thereof.
- 35 14. The process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 13, characterized in that the nanoscale particles are selected from those of SiO₂, TiO₂, ZrO₂, ZnO, Ta₂O₅, SnO₂ and Al₂O₃ and mixtures thereof.
15. The process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 14, characterized in that the polymerizable and/or polycondensable surface groups are selected from organic radicals which possess a (meth)acryloyl, vinyl, allyl or epoxy group.

16. The process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 15, characterized in that the solid particles used have been produced by surface modification of nanoscale solid particles having the appropriate surface groups.
- 5 17. The process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 16, characterized in that the solid particles used have been produced using at least one compound having appropriate polymerizable/polycondensable groups.
- 10 18. The process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 17, characterized in that the inorganic solid particles are produced by the sol-gel process.
19. The process as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 18, characterized in that the coating composition has a pH in the range from 3 to 8.
- 15 20. The use of the optical multi-layer system as claimed in one of claims 1 to 6 as an interference layer system and especially as an antireflection layer system.